

1 **Article 9.**

2 **Children's Services Facilitation Council and Teams.**

3 **§ 12-15-170. [MN] Creation of Executive Council of the Alabama Children's Services**
4 **Facilitation Team; membership; duties.**

5 There is created an Executive Council of the Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team
6 consisting of the heads of the following departments or agencies: Department of Education,
7 Department of Human Resources, Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation,
8 Department of Public Health, and the Department of Youth Services. The Executive Council
9 shall exercise general supervision and oversight over the Alabama Children's Services
10 Facilitation Team, approve its state plan and its budget, oversee all financial arrangements,
11 approve all policies and procedures, as well as amendments thereto, and establish minimum
12 standards for the operation of county children's services facilitation teams.

13 **§ 12-15-171. [MN] Children's Services Facilitation Team established; membership; term;**
14 **duties; hiring authority.**

15 (a) The Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team is created and shall consist of a
16 representative appointed by the head of the following departments or organizations: The State
17 Department of Education, the State Department of Human Resources, the State Department of
18 Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the State Department of Public Health, the State
19 Department of Youth Services, ~~and the Association of Alabama~~ Chief ~~Juvenile~~ Probation Officers
20 Association, and the Alabama Association of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. As used in this
21 article, "state team" means Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team.

22 (b) The appointments to the state team shall be for a term of three years beginning October 1,
23 1993 and each three years thereafter and until their successors are appointed, except that the
24 initial appointments of the representatives of the State Department of Human Resources and the

1 State Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation shall be for three years; the initial
2 appointments of the representatives of the State Department of Education and the State
3 Department of Youth Services shall be for two years; and the initial appointments of
4 representatives of the State Department of Public Health, and the ~~Association of Alabama~~ Chief
5 ~~Juvenile~~ Probation Officers Association, and the Alabama Association of Juvenile and Family
6 Court Judges shall be for one year. Any vacancies in the appointed positions shall be filled in
7 like manner as their predecessor and shall serve for the remainder of their predecessor's term and
8 until a successor is appointed. Representatives may be reappointed for additional terms.

9 (c) The state team shall annually select one of its members to serve as chair and may select
10 other officers as needed.

11 (d) The state team shall meet at least monthly at a time and place that is mutually agreeable.
12 The initial meeting shall be called by the Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources
13 within three months of May 27, 1993.

14 (e) The state team shall:

15 (1) Develop and implement interagency plans for statewide services for multiple needs
16 children.

17 (2) Develop guidelines, policies, and procedures, for the allocation of available resources
18 for services to multiple needs children. Such guidelines, policies, and procedures shall be
19 approved by the Executive Council of the Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team.

20 (3) Be authorized to exchange records, documents, and information among members of
21 the state and county teams as well as the agencies the members represent for the purposes of
22 assessment, planning, and delivery of services to children.

23 (4) Consult with the county children's services facilitation teams to ensure that all efforts
24 to provide services locally and in the least restrictive environment are exhausted before a

1 case is referred to the state team. Upon receiving a referral, the Alabama Children's Services
2 Facilitation Team shall develop a plan which shall be binding on the county children's
3 services facilitation team. The Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team shall have the
4 authority to allocate resources to implement the plan for services and treatment in accordance
5 with the budget approved by the Executive Council of the Alabama Children's Services
6 Facilitation Team.

7 (5) The state team is authorized to accept and use funds available to it from all sources,
8 including, but not limited to, grants, appropriations, gifts, and donations for the purpose of
9 implementing the provisions of this section. All such funds shall be deposited into the State
10 Multiple Needs Children Fund, which shall be under the management of the Alabama
11 Children's Services Facilitation Team. Monies of the fund maybe withdrawn by vouchers
12 authorized by the chair of the state team in accordance with the operations plan approved by
13 the executive council.

14 (6) The state team shall report periodically to the Alabama Juvenile Justice Coordinating
15 Council on the services available within the state, the number of cases upon which the state
16 team has been consulted or requested to formulate a service plan, and budgetary needs or
17 constraints affecting delivery of services.

18 (f) The Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team shall be authorized to employ staff,
19 conditioned upon appropriation of funds, to carry out the duties of the team. Employment maybe
20 through contract or appointment under the State Merit System, utilizing one of the member
21 agencies as the appointing or contracting authority. Supervision of any staff provided under this
22 section shall be by the chair of the Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team.

23 | **§ 12-15-172. IMN County facilitation teams established; appointments; meetings; duties.**

1 (a) A county children's services facilitation team is created in each county of the state. As
2 used in this article, "county team" means a county children's services facilitation team. The team
3 shall consist of a representative appointed by the head of the following departments or
4 organizations: The local education agency or agencies, the county ~~department of human~~
5 ~~resources~~Department of Human Resources, the county Department of Mental Health and Mental
6 Retardation, the State Department of Youth Services, and a juvenile probation officer
7 representative ~~from juvenile probation services~~ appointed by the presiding juvenile court judge,
8 and a juvenile or family court judge designated by the presiding juvenile court judge.

9 (b) Appointments to the team shall be for a term of three years beginning October 1, 1993
10 and each three years thereafter and until their successors are appointed, except that the initial
11 appointments of the representatives of the county department of human resources and the
12 Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation shall be for three years; the initial
13 appointments of the representatives of the local education agency or agencies and the
14 Department of Youth Services shall be for two years; and the initial appointment of the
15 representative of the juvenile probation services shall be for one year. Any vacancies in the
16 appointed positions shall be filled in like manner as their predecessor and shall serve for the
17 remainder of their predecessor's term and until a successor is appointed. Representatives may be
18 reappointed for additional terms.

19 (c) The county team shall annually select one of its members to serve as chair and may select
20 other officers as needed.

21 (d) An organizational meeting of the county team shall be called by the county director of the
22 county department of human resources within three months after May 27, 1993. Other meetings
23 may be held as needed. The county team shall meet within seven days of a case being referred by
24 a court or from notice of a member that there is a need for the team to develop a service plan.

1 (e) The county team shall:

2 (1) Comply with the guidelines, policies, and procedures promulgated by the Alabama
3 Children's Services Facilitation Team and approved by the Executive Council of the
4 Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team.

5 (2) Be authorized to develop guidelines, policies, and procedures, not in conflict with the
6 minimum standards established by the state team, for the county team.

7 (3) Be authorized to exchange records, documents, and information among members of
8 the county and state teams, as well as the agencies the members represent, for the purposes of
9 assessment, planning, and delivery of services to children.

10 (4) By consensus, develop an individualized service plan to meet the needs of each child
11 who is accepted by the team.

12 (5) Consult with the Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team whenever the county
13 team is unable to reach an agreement as to a service plan. In the event a county team requests
14 assistance of the state team because of an inability to agree on a service plan, the service plan
15 developed by the state team shall be binding on the local team, as well as the departments
16 represented.

17 (6) The county team shall work with the county juvenile justice coordinating council to
18 ensure that appropriate local services are developed, modified, or expanded as the needs of
19 children within the community are identified.

20 (7) Be authorized to add representatives of other community agencies, temporarily or
21 permanently, based on circumstances of the needs of a child referred to the county team.

22 (8) The county children's services facilitation team is authorized to accept and use funds
23 available to it from all sources, including, but not limited to, grants, appropriations, gifts, and
24 donations for the purpose of implementing the provisions of this section. All such funds shall

1 be deposited into the county multiple needs children fund, which shall be under the
2 management of the county children's services facilitation team. Monies of the fund maybe
3 withdrawn by vouchers or checks authorized by the chair of the county team in accordance
4 with the operations plan approved by the county team.

5 **§ 12-15-173. [MNI] Reimbursement available for team member expenses.**

6 The members of the state and county teams shall be entitled to be reimbursed for their
7 expenses, including travel, lodging, food, and other expenses at the same rate as state employees.
8 The expenses shall be paid by their respective departments or organizations. Travel expenses of
9 members of the team not otherwise reimbursed by the respective departments or organizations
10 may be paid from funds available to the teams.

11 **§ 12-15-174. [MNI] State Multiple Needs Children Fund established; use; limitations;**
12 **accounting system to be maintained; provisions for yearly audit.**

13 There is established in the State Treasury a fund to be known as the State Multiple Needs
14 Children Fund which shall be administered by the agency designated by the Executive Council
15 of the Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team. This fund shall consist of all monies
16 appropriated for these purposes from the State General Fund or the Alabama Special Educational
17 Trust Fund, donations, grants, bequests, loans, or any other sources, either public or private,
18 relating to providing services for children identified as multiple needs children.

19 The State Multiple Needs Children Fund shall be used to provide services not otherwise
20 provided by state departments or agencies for multiple needs children as defined in subdivision
21 (19) of Section 12-15-1. Administrative costs connected with the expenditures of state multiple
22 needs children funds shall not exceed a percentage amount established by the executive council.

23 All funds now or hereafter deposited to the credit of the State Multiple Needs Children Fund
24 shall be expended for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this article; provided,

1 however, that no funds shall be withdrawn nor expended for any purpose whatsoever unless the
2 same shall have been allotted and budgeted in accordance with the provisions of Article4 of
3 Chapter 4 of Title 41, and only in the amounts and for the purposes provided by the Legislature
4 in the general appropriations bill for any specific fiscal year.

5 The Chief Examiner of the Department of Public Accounts shall develop a uniform
6 accounting system for the State Multiple Needs Children Fund conforming to generally accepted
7 accounting principles. County children's services facilitation teams and programs shall establish
8 and maintain the uniform accounting system.

9 The annual reports and all records of accounts and financial records of all funds received by
10 the State Multiple Needs Children Fund by grant, contract, or otherwise from state, local, or
11 federal sources, shall be subject to audit annually by the Chief Examiner of the Department of
12 Public Accounts. All audits shall be completed as soon as practicable after the end of the fiscal
13 year of the team.

14 § 12-15-175. IMNL Council to adopt allocation guidelines; granting role of state team;
15 eligible recipients; prerequisites to maintaining funding; penalty for noncompliance;
16 reporting requirement.

17 (a) The Executive Council of the Alabama Children's Services Facilitation Team shall adopt
18 policies and procedures relating to the allocation of available resources for providing services for
19 multiple needs children; for granting funds for programs on individuals; and for monitoring,
20 evaluating, and reviewing programs where funds are provided. Funds available to provide
21 services for multiple needs children may be allocated by the Alabama Children's Services
22 Facilitation Team:

23 (1) To counties, or groups of counties, based on detailed proposals, for establishing new,
24 needs-based local services or expanding existing programs.

1 (2) To provide treatment for individual children.

2 (3) For other activities consistent with the purposes of this article.

3 (b) The state team, with approval of the executive council, shall determine the amount and
4 duration of grants made for new programs provided for one or more counties. The state team
5 shall also determine the amount of funding to be awarded and the duration in individual cases
6 where local resources have been exhausted. The state team may select projects which meet the
7 criteria and are compatible with the purposes of the multiple needs children program for financial
8 awards.

9 (c) In order to remain eligible for continued grant funding, a recipient shall substantially
10 comply with the standards and administrative regulations defining program effectiveness which
11 shall be promulgated by the executive council of the state team. Each recipient will participate in
12 an evaluation to determine local and state program effectiveness. The form of this evaluation will
13 be a part of the promulgated policies and procedures.

14 Continued grant funding shall be based on demonstrated effectiveness in providing services
15 to meet the identified needs.

16 If it is determined that there are reasonable grounds to believe that a participating county
17 team is not complying with its plan or the minimum standards, the state team shall give 30 days'
18 written notice to the participating entity. If the state team finds that a participating entity is not
19 complying with its plan or the established minimum standards, the state team shall require the
20 entity to provide a letter of intent as to how and when specific deficiencies identified will be
21 corrected. If no letter is submitted to the state team within the time limit specified, or if the
22 deficiencies are not corrected within 45 days after the letter has been submitted to the entity, the
23 funding may be suspended in part or in whole until compliance is achieved.

1 (d) A quarterly report shall be submitted to the Alabama Juvenile Justice Coordinating
2 Council showing the awards initiated by the state team during the quarter and the cumulative
3 totals for each new services awards, awards for each individual child, and awards for each
4 special project. An annual report shall also be compiled.

5 | **§ 12-15-176. ~~[GPI]~~ Effect of other laws on this article; compulsory school age attendance**
6 **statute to remain in full force and effect.**

7 No other laws, or parts of laws, which are in any manner inconsistent with this article shall be
8 construed to supersede or in any way alter or affect the provisions of this article, and no law shall
9 be operative to the extent it may be in conflict and inconsistent with this article. Specifically,
10 Section 16-28-3, establishing the compulsory school attendance age, shall remain in full force and
11 effect.